

REMARKS***Claim Objections***

Claim 21 has been amended to correct the informality noted in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

Claims 16 – 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 31, 32, 43, 44, and 47 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by McPhillips (US Patent No. 6,616,890 B2). Claim 16 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 19, including intervening claim 18, and claim 19 was indicated to be allowable, therefore, claim 16 as amended is allowable. Claims 17, 20, 22, 23, and 25 depend on the amended claim 16 and therefore are also allowable. Claims 17 and 18 have been canceled.

Claims 31, 32, 41, 48, and 49 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Okuda et al. (US Patent No. 5,750,958). Claim 31 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 34, including intervening claim 32, and claim 34 was indicated to be allowable. Therefore claim 31, as amended, is allowable. Claim 32 has been canceled. Claim 41 depends on the amended claim 31 and therefore is also allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

Claims 25, 33, and 40 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over McPhillips in view of Koshkarian et al. (US Patent No. 5,578,349).

Claims 41, 42, 45, and 46 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over McPhillips (US Patent No. 6,616,890 B2).

Claims 33 and 40 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuda et al. (US Patent No. 5,750,958) in view of Koshkarian et al. (US Patent No. 5,578,349).

All of the above rejections have been overcome by amending the claims to include the allowable subject matter. Claim 25 depends on the amended claim 16 and claim 33 depends on the amended claim 31. Claim 40 has been canceled. Claims 41, 42, and 45 depend on the amended claim 31. Claim 46 has been canceled.

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Page - 7
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